

increase. All these animals are said by Capt. Harris to be easily overtaken by a good and well-conditioned horse, their very speed being their destruction, frantic terror at such novel enemies causing them to spend their strength in the exertions of a few miles. The speed of the Camelopard is extraordinary, but "our best horses were able to close with him in about two miles."

The great fault of Capt. Harris's book is a constant attempt to assume a scientific character, which every page contradicts. There is no precise information on the subject either of zoology or geography, the two branches which the author particularly boasts of his desire to investigate; he does not appear to have made a single observation to ascertain either the latitude, longitude, or elevation of the places he visited, nor to have carried any instruments for that purpose; and this is the more to be regretted, as he visited a part of the country very seldom penetrated by Europeans. The positions on his map are consequently laid down at least 20° wrong in latitude, and their longitude of course must have been taken at random. Though not a practised zoologist, Capt. Harris's hints on habits and localities are often valuable, and they are given but as incidental to the great thread of his discourse, which is a lively narrative of a shooting excursion and nothing more; but this very character deprives them of suspicion. To the end of the volume is added a descriptive Catalogue of the Mammalia of Southern Africa, but which contains little that was not previously known: it is in fact chiefly copied (though without acknowledgement) from Dr. Andrew Smith's "African Zoology," a small work printed at Cape Town about eight or ten years since, and we believe never published, though freely circulated among the friends of the amiable and talented author.

We have thus attempted to give a fair and impartial account of Capt. Harris's volume. It is written in the lively dashing spirit of a soldier and a sportsman: no one can read it without amusement, and few without some instruction; and if truth has obliged us to mingle some slight censure with our general praise of the performance, it is because the pretensions which the author makes to scientific knowledge create expectations which are disappointed in the perusal.

*Deutschlands Lebermoose in getrockneten Exemplaren.* Herausgegeben von Dr. J. W. P. Hübener und C. F. E. Genth. Svo. Mainz. Florian Kupferberg, 1836—1839. Nos. 1 to 5.

To such of our readers as are students or collectors of Cryptogamic plants, and we hope and believe that this class of botanists has

greatly increased of late in this country, we strongly recommend this collection of specimens of the Hepaticæ of Germany. Each number contains 25 specimens, with the names and localities, but unaccompanied with descriptions. As might be expected, the great majority of the plants given belong to the genus *Jungermannia*, but specimens referred to the genera *Riccia*, *Marchantia*, *Anthoceros*, and others recently separated from these are also given, so that the collection may ultimately include, as far as possible, all the species of Hepaticæ found in Germany. The specimens are good, and very well preserved.

*A. Bertolonii Flora Italica, sistens Plantas in Italia et in Insulis circumstantibus sponte nascentes.* Bononiæ, 1833-39. 8vo.

We have recently received the first Fasciculus of the 4th volume of the above work, which we must crave the pardon of our botanical readers for not having sooner introduced to their notice. It is quite unnecessary for us to say anything in praise of the high botanical attainments of Prof. Bertoloni, since they are universally allowed to have raised him into the first rank of modern botanists; a character fully supported by the work before us. It is the author's intention to describe all the plants indigenous to Italy and the adjacent islands, and this he has now done (in the first three volumes), as far as the end of Pentandria, in a more complete manner, with fuller descriptions, more numerous synonyms, and with a greater number of critical and explanatory observations than we have met with in any other Flora. In the part commencing the fourth volume, which is now more particularly under our notice, the class Hexandria is commenced; and in order to convey some idea of the extent of the Flora, and the space devoted to the several species, we append a list of the genera described in this fasciculus of 128 octavo pages, and mark by the numbers following each name, the number of species included in each genus:—*Galanthus* 2, *Leucojum* 5, *Narcissus* 12, *Pancreatium* 2, *Sternbergia* 2, *Allium* 31, *Lilium* 5, *Fritillaria* 3, *Erythronium* 1, *Tulipa* 8, *Ornithogalum* 12, *Scilla* 12, *Asphodelus* 5, *Anthericum* 4. In Sir J. E. Smith's 'English Flora' the corresponding genera occupy only 22 pages and include 24 species; in Bertoloni's work they occupy 128 pages, and include 114 species.

We cannot too highly recommend this work to the notice of British botanists, more especially from its including (as far as at present published) nearly all the native plants of our own country, and placing them in juxtaposition with the numerous allied species which are found in the south of Europe.